



**Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service**  
**Pest Detection and Management Programs – Program Update**

---

**Program:** *Phytophthora ramorum*

**Date:** August 5, 2004

Today, a SPRO (DA-2004-30) was sent indicating that APHIS is listing four species and de-listed one species as associated articles for *Phytophthora ramorum*. *Calluna vulgaris* - Heath (Ericaceae), *Drimys winteri* - Winter's bark (Winteraceae), *Laurus nobilis* – Bay Laurel (Lauraceae), *Salix caprea* – Kilmarnock willow (Salicaceae) are listed as associated regulated articles. *Vaccinium vitis-idaea* (lingonberry) is de-listed due to the Plant Protection and Seed Service of Poland report that they were unable to validate their original association of lingonberry with *P. ramorum*.

Trace forward and national surveys continue as PPQ determines the distribution of *P. ramorum*. Four additional nurseries were found positive; two in Georgia and two in Washington. As of August 5, 2004, the number of confirmed positive locales from the trace forward, national, and other surveys now totals 155 in 21 States. The total includes three residential finds; two in Georgia and one in South Carolina. The breakdown per State is: AL (3), AR(1), AZ (1), CA(53), CO(1), FL(6), GA(18), LA(5), MD(2), NC(9), NJ(1), NM(1), NY(1), OK(1), OR(10), PA(indoor), SC(3), TN(2), TX(10), VA(2) and WA (24). PPQ *P. ramorum* National Survey sampling has been completed in 11 States in the Western Region (AK, AR, AZ, CA, ID, IA, LA, MO, NE, OK, and SD). To date, participating States through out the nation have surveyed 1,733 sites and have collected 35,150 samples; 19 national survey sites are confirmed positive.

The California Association of Nurseries and Garden Centers (CANGC) filed a suit against the Commonwealth of Kentucky asking a judge to enforce federal laws that permit the interstate shipment of California nursery products certified as safe and free from disease (July 12, 2004). On July 30<sup>th</sup>, Judge Hood, a federal district judge for the Eastern District of Kentucky, signed an order permanently enjoining Kentucky from having *P. ramorum* regulations that are inconsistent with the federal standard.

APHIS/CSREES Master Gardener – SOD coordination and training project. PPQ, in collaboration with the National Plant Diagnostic Network, CSREES, State Plant Regulatory Officials, State Department of Agriculture Plant Clinic Diagnosticians, and Master Gardener and IPM Coordinators, will conduct two teleconferences to inform State cooperators of national efforts to date, to discuss the need for State-based response plans, and to provide training for master gardeners and other State cooperators in the identification of and proper procedures for suspect *P. ramorum* infected plants. The first teleconference is set for next Tuesday, August 10<sup>th</sup>.